Public Law 103–231 103d Congress

An Act

To extend certain compliance dates for pesticide safety training and labeling requirements.

Apr. 6, 1994 [S. 1913]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. COMPLIANCE.

Until January 1, 1995, it shall not be a misuse under section 12(a)(2)(G) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136j(a)(2)(G)) to use any pesticide product in a manner inconsistent with the provisions of 40 CFR part 170 that are (1) subject to the compliance date specified in 40 CFR section 170.5(c) and (2) incorporated by reference on the label or labeling of any pesticide product. This delay in compliance shall not apply to specific worker protection requirements that appear directly on the label or labeling of the pesticide product.

SEC. 2. REENTRY INTERVAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the provisions of 40 CFR part 170, until January 1, 1995, a worker may enter an area treated with a pesticide product during the restricted entry interval specified on the label of the pesticide product to perform tasks related to the production of agricultural plants if the agricultural employer ensures that—

(1) no hand labor activity is performed;

(2) no such entry is allowed for the first 4 hours following

the end of the application of the pesticide product;
(3) no such entry is allowed until any inhalation exposure level listed on the product labeling has been reached; and

(4) the personal protective equipment specified on the product labeling for early entry is provided in clean and operating condition to the worker.

(b) PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR IRRIGATION WORK.—For irrigation work for which the only contact with treated surfaces is to the feet, lower legs, hands, and arms, the agricultural employer may provide coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, and chemical resistant footwear instead of the personal protective equipment specified on the label.

SEC. 3. CROP ADVISORS.

Notwithstanding the provisions of 40 CFR part 170, until January 1, 1995, persons performing duties as crop advisors shall not be considered workers or handlers under 40 CFR part 170 (or

for the purposes of the pesticide label) and shall not be subject to the requirements of 40 CFR part 170.

SEC. 4. SAFETY TRAINING.

(a) Training Materials.—Not later than September 23, 1994, the Administrator shall develop and distribute pesticide safety training materials that convey, at a minimum, the information referred in 40 CFR section 170.230(c)(4).

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator shall assist the appropriate Federal, State, and tribal agencies in implementing the pesticide safety training programs required under 40 CFR part

170

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(1) The term "hand labor" means any agricultural activity performed by hand or with hand tools that causes a worker to have substantial contact with surfaces (such as plants, plant parts, or soil) that may contain pesticide residues. These activities include, but are not limited to, harvesting, detasseling, thinning, weeding, topping, planting, sucker removal, pruning, disbudding, roguing, and packing produce into containers in the field. The term "hand labor" shall not include operating, moving, or repairing irrigation or watering equipment or performing the tasks of crop advisors.

(2) The term "agricultural employer" means any person who hires or contracts for the services of workers, for any type of compensation, to perform activities related to the production of agricultural plants, or any person who is an owner of or is responsible for management or condition of

an agricultural establishment that uses such workers.

(3) The term "worker" means any person, including a selfemployed person, who is employed for any type of compensation and who is performing activities relating to the production of agricultural plants on an agricultural establishment. The term "worker" shall not include any person employed by a commercial pesticide handling establishment to perform tasks as a crop advisor.

(4) The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of

the Environmental Protection Agency.

SEC. 6. EFFECTIVE PERIOD.

The provisions in this Act shall be effective until January 1, 1995.

Approved April 6, 1994.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY-S. 1913:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 140 (1994):
Mar. 9, considered and passed Senate.
Mar. 17, considered and passed House, amended.
Mar. 24, Senate concurred in House amendment.